

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Catherine C. Turkel and
Mitchell F. Brin

Serial Number: 10/789,180

Filed: 02/26/2004

For: METHODS FOR TREATING
PAIN AND FOR TREATING A
MEDICATION OVERUSE
DISORDER

Examiner: FORD, Vanessa L.

Art Unit: 1645

Confirmation No. 9912

Irvine, California

RESPONSE TO MAY 22, 2006 NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**This response to the May 22, 2006 office action amends
claims 1, 9 and 16, adds new claim 29 and cancels claims 21-28.**

I. The Office Action

The May 22, 2006 non-final office action (the "Office Action") in this application:

- 1.) provisionally rejected claims 1-20 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting;
- 2.) rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st paragraph;
- 3.) rejected claims 13-3, 10-17, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a);
- 4.) rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a); and
- 5.) twice rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

Applicants respond as follows.